(c) whether it is a fact that Government employees' Unions and Associations have expressed their strong resentment against the judicial pronouncement and urged Government to file a review petition before the apex court and if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) and (b) In the judgement delivered on 6th August, 2003 in the case of T.K. Rangarajan *Vs.* Government of Tamil Nadu and others, the Supreme Court has held that no right to strike-whether Fundamental, Statutory or Equitable/Moral Right—exists with the Government employees. As per the provisions of the Conduct Rules, no Government servant shall resort to or in any way abet any form of strike or coercion or physical duress in connection with any matter pertaining to his service of any other Government servant.

(c) Some of the Trade Unions and employees have expressed their protest against the said judgement. It is understood that the Supreme Court has decided to reconsider the said judgement in the Writ Petition filed by the General Secretary of Andhra Pradesh State Council of the AITUC.

Government's Wage Bill

863. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that Government's wage bill including pensionary liabilities is growing at a very fast rate for the past several years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard to contain the Government expenditure on this account within sustainable limits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.